

Community Listening Oct 17 Session Responses

Question/Concern	Division Responsible	Response Submitted
<p>Mold Issue at Benjamin D Foulois Performing Arts</p>	<p>Building Services</p>	<p>Benjamin Foulois Creative and Performing Arts School (BFCPA), Prince George’s County Public School system has over 200 aging facilities with approximately \$2.5 billion in deferred maintenance. Extreme weather events, such as we witnessed this summer, with 87 days with above average temperatures and high humidity overwhelmed our mechanical systems resulting in an increase occurrence of mold. However, I can confirm that we are and will continue to take the necessary measures to ensure a safe and secure learning environment in all of our facilities. For example, in response to water quality issues, our Environmental Office developed an Environmental Response Team (ERT) which focused our efforts on training and equipping staff to safely respond to any environmental issues in our facilities while limiting the impact on the educational process. Earlier this year, we expanded the role of our ERT team to include air quality. Dr. Monica Goldson, Interim CEO, provided the resources for our ERT team to develop a systemic protocol to inspect, test, and mitigate air quality in all facilities. Environmental Solutions Inc. (ESI) was contracted to provide testing, technical assistance, and oversight including the protocol for mitigation. BFCPA was used as our remediation facility where we developed the protocol and trained our ERT team for mold remediation. ESI conducted an environmental assessment of BFCPA including air and swab samples and provided a review and recommendations to our protocol for remediation. ESI conducted follow up inspections of BFCPA with our ERT team leadership and performed a clearance assessment including air sampling. BFCPA was considered safe and no further inspections or testing is necessary.</p>
<p>Here Comes the Bus App is STILL not working</p>	<p>Transportation</p>	<p>HCTB App does require that someone manually updates the App with bus changes if required AM / PM daily.</p>

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<p>The new program to track the buses doesn't work either. Some days it does and some days it does not. Over the last week I have not been able to get any information from this program. I have also contacted the transportation department about this problem. I have received no response from them</p>	<p>Transportation</p>	<p>The Transportation Department is working directly with the vendor to quickly resolve some of the issues that you are experiencing with the HCTB App. and should be resolved shortly.</p>
<p>What is the protocol for reporting rooms with faulty HVAC systems and/or equipment, such as classrooms being without heat or air, as well as teachers having to sit in broken chairs or there aren't any at all for the teacher, this they're sitting in children's seats?</p>	<p>Building Services</p>	<p>Issues with the heat are reported by the school's Building Supervisor and addressed by the Maintenance Department to make needed repairs Broken chairs/furniture would be replaced by the school.</p>
<p>The bus is constantly an issue in the morning. I have a 9 year old that has been left at the bus stop for over an hour on multiple occasions. I was told that the bus lot (Crossland) is short drivers and that her bus driver was on leave. While I understand that there is a shortage of drivers, I also understand that we have students standing at these bus stops alone, in inclement weather for extended periods of time. This has caused me to get off my job multiple times to take my daughter to school. Continuing to leave students at the bus stops for</p>	<p>Transportation</p>	<p>The Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Transportation Department is the 10th largest school transportation system in the United States and as such we transparently acknowledge that we are experiencing a severe bus driver shortage. The bus driver shortage is a national crisis and it is estimated that over 90% of school districts in the country are currently experiencing some degree of bus driver shortage. (RTA Fleet.com May 2018) With this reality, we have challenged our transportation leadership to think out of the box and come up with new and creative ways to support our efforts to provide the optimal service in transporting our students to and from school on a daily basis. PGCPS began a rigorous recruitment effort during the 2017-2018 school year holding two job fairs monthly the entire school year. We also began offering paid training to anyone interested in becoming a bus driver, who met the standards to be admitted to our CDL class. While we continue to struggle to maintain an adequate number of transportation staff, who are capable of providing consistent and timely service to our students, we pledge to continue to implement new strategies, with the goal of hiring new drivers and retaining those drivers already in our system.</p>

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over an hour, with a application (Here Comes the Bus) that is not working on most days is unacceptable.		
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